

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena - December 2008

Location	Date/Time	Deaths & Injuries	Property & Crop Dmg	Event Type and Details
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ARKANSAS, Central and North Central

POPE COUNTY --- 2.0 S RUSSELLVILLE [35.25, -93.13]

12/09/08 14:10 CST	0	Funnel Cloud
12/09/08 14:11 CST	0	Source: Public

A funnel cloud was photographed over the southern part of Russellville.

(AR-Z003) BOONE, (AR-Z004) MARION, (AR-Z005) BAXTER, (AR-Z007) SHARP, (AR-Z012) NEWTON, (AR-Z013) SEARCY

12/10/08 02:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
12/10/08 09:00 CST	0	

A strong cold front moved across Arkansas on the 9th, accompanied by numerous showers and thunderstorms. Colder air moved in quickly behind the front, with temperatures plunging more than 20 degrees within just a few hours after frontal passage. Lingering moisture behind the front, coupled with weak areas of low pressure aloft, brought some wintry precipitation to parts of northern Arkansas early on the morning of the 10th.

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A funnel cloud occurred over the southern part of Russellville (Pope County) on 12/9/08. This picture was courtesy of Lee Vann.

(AR-Z003) BOONE, (AR-Z004) MARION, (AR-Z005) BAXTER, (AR-Z012) NEWTON, (AR-Z013) SEARCY, (AR-Z015) IZARD, (AR-Z021) JOHNSON, (AR-Z022) POPE, (AR-Z030) LOGAN, (AR-Z040) POLK, (AR-Z041) MONTGOMERY, (AR-Z042) GARLAND, (AR-Z043) SALINE, (AR-Z044) PULASKI, (AR-Z045) LONOKE, (AR-Z046) PRAIRIE, (AR-Z047) MONROE, (AR-Z052) PIKE, (AR-Z053) CLARK, (AR-Z054) HOT SPRING, (AR-Z055) GRANT, (AR-Z056) JEFFERSON, (AR-Z057) ARKANSAS, (AR-Z062) DALLAS, (AR-Z063) CLEVELAND, (AR-Z064) LINCOLN, (AR-Z065) DESHA, (AR-Z066) OUACHITA, (AR-Z067) CALHOUN, (AR-Z068) BRADLEY, (AR-Z069) DREW	12/15/08 01:00 CST	0	Winter Weather
	12/16/08 14:00 CST	0	

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(AR-Z006) FULTON, (AR-Z007) SHARP, (AR-Z014) STONE, (AR-Z016) INDEPENDENCE, (AR-Z023) VAN BUREN, (AR-Z024) CLEBURNE, (AR-Z025) JACKSON, (AR-Z031) CONWAY, (AR-Z032) FAULKNER, (AR-Z033) WHITE, (AR-Z034) WOODRUFF, (AR-Z037) SCOTT, (AR-Z038) YELL, (AR-Z039) PERRY	12/15/08 05:00 CST		0	Winter Storm
	12/16/08 14:00 CST		0	

A strong Arctic cold front moved across Arkansas on the night of the 14th and the morning of the 15th. Temperatures plunged 25 to 30 degrees in just a few hours. An overrunning pattern soon developed, with warmer, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico moving up and over the top of the colder air. The result was freezing rain and sleet over the entire county warning area, with some light snow mixed in over the northern part of the state. The wintry mix began on the morning of the 15th in the northwest part of the warning area, and then spread across the remainder of the area later on the 15th and during the wee hours of the 16th. Precipitation diminished to freezing drizzle on the morning of the 16th and then continued into the afternoon hours. The wintry precipitation brought hazardous driving conditions throughout the area.



Up to three inches of sleet fell at Conway (Faulkner County), with a sports field blanketed at Hendrix College on 12/16/08. Photo by John Lewis, WFO Little Rock.

(AR-Z003) BOONE, (AR-Z004) MARION, (AR-Z005) BAXTER, (AR-Z006) FULTON, (AR-Z007) SHARP, (AR-Z012) NEWTON, (AR-Z013) SEARCY, (AR-Z014) STONE, (AR-Z015) IZARD, (AR-Z016) INDEPENDENCE, (AR-Z021) JOHNSON, (AR-Z022) POPE, (AR-Z023) VAN BUREN, (AR-Z024) CLEBURNE, (AR-Z025) JACKSON, (AR-Z030) LOGAN, (AR-Z031) CONWAY, (AR-Z032) FAULKNER, (AR-Z033) WHITE, (AR-Z034) WOODRUFF, (AR-Z037) SCOTT, (AR-Z038) YELL, (AR-Z039) PERRY, (AR-Z040) POLK, (AR-Z041) MONTGOMERY, (AR-Z042) GARLAND, (AR-Z043) SALINE, (AR-Z044) PULASKI, (AR-Z045) LONOKE, (AR-Z046) PRAIRIE, (AR-Z047) MONROE, (AR-Z052) PIKE, (AR-Z053) CLARK, (AR-Z054) HOT SPRING, (AR-Z055) GRANT, (AR-Z056) JEFFERSON, (AR-Z057) ARKANSAS, (AR-Z064) LINCOLN, (AR-Z065) DESHA, (AR-Z069) DREW	12/23/08 04:00 CST		0	Winter Weather
	12/23/08 17:00 CST		0	

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<p>An Arctic air mass was retreating on the 23rd, but before temperatures could rise above freezing, warmer, moist air from the Gulf of Mexico moved over the top of the cold air. The result was freezing rain, freezing drizzle, and sleet over most areas. Although precipitation amounts were small, an icy glaze developed on many bridges and overpasses, as well as other elevated roadways. Hazardous driving conditions developed quickly, in time for the morning rush hour in most areas. Hundreds of vehicle accidents resulted. From late morning into the afternoon hours, temperatures gradually rose above freezing, putting an end to the icy conditions.</p>				
POPE COUNTY --- RUSSELLVILLE [35.28, -93.13]				
	12/27/08 13:30 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/27/08 13:30 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement
Large trees and power lines were down on the south side of Russellville.				
YELL COUNTY --- DARDANELLE [35.22, -93.15]				
	12/27/08 13:39 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/27/08 13:39 CST	0		Source: Emergency Manager
A roof was blown off a mobile home on Waterplant Road in Dardanelle.				
BAXTER COUNTY --- 3.0 NNE MOUNTAIN HOME [36.37, -92.36]				
	12/27/08 13:45 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 53 kt)
	12/27/08 13:45 CST	0		Source: Trained Spotter
SEARCY COUNTY --- MARSHALL [35.90, -92.63]				
	12/27/08 13:45 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/27/08 13:45 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement
Trees were down on roads across the city.				
BAXTER COUNTY --- 0.9 NNE HERRON [36.18, -92.27]				
	12/27/08 14:02 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/27/08 14:02 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement
A large tree was down on Sheid Road.				
IZARD COUNTY --- 1.3 S MELBOURNE [36.05, -91.92]				
	12/27/08 14:38 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/27/08 14:38 CST	0		Source: Law Enforcement
Large limbs were down on Arkansas Highway 9.				
WHITE COUNTY --- SEARCY [35.25, -91.75]				
	12/27/08 15:55 CST	0		Thunderstorm Wind (EG 50 kt)
	12/27/08 15:55 CST	0		Source: Public
Limbs were down on roads across the city.				
<p>Very cold air just before Christmas was replaced by near record high temperatures in the 60s and 70s on the 26th. This was ahead of a storm system riding a southwest wind flow aloft toward Arkansas. Ahead of the system, the atmosphere became rather unstable. A cold front moving through the Plains tapped into this unstable air, and a line of thunderstorms resulted.</p>				